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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/832,504	04/10/2001	Moritaka Nakamura		2451

7590 08/04/2004

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EXAMINER

SHIFERAW, ELENI A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2136

DATE MAILED: 08/04/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	09/832,504	NAKAMURA, MORITAKA	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Eleni A Shiferaw	2136	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 April 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)             | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)                     |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)    | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____  |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____   | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                                    |

### **DETAILED ACTION**

1. Claim 1 is presented for examination.

#### ***Specification***

Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph on a separate sheet within the range of 50 to 150 words. It is important that the abstract not exceed 150 words in length since the space provided for the abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited. The form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "means" and "said," should be avoided. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.

The language should be clear and concise and should not repeat information given in the title. It should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as, "The disclosure concerns," "The disclosure defined by this invention," "The disclosure describes," etc.

#### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and

Art Unit: 2136

the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cuomo et al. (Cuomo, Pub. No.: US 2002/0091757 A1) in view of Naor et al. (Naor, US Patent No.: 6,226,743 B1)

4. As per claim 1 Cuomo teaches an electronic notarization on net, system, comprising

a center site (Page 2 par. 0021, Fig. 1 No. 104, Fig. 3 No. 302);

a plurality client, sites (Fig. 1 No. 108, 110, and 112);

a network connecting the center site and the clients sites to each other (Fig. 1 No. 102);

wherein the center site includes an open electronic record database for storing therein record from clients' sites, and for a notarization procedure (Page 3 par. 0031);

Means for accepting records of clients, requested by the clients site to this center site (Page 3 par. 0029, Fig. 3 No. 300 (user), and Fig. 3 No. 302 (server)).

Means for storing accepted records (Page 3 par. 0029).

Means for issuing certificate of the acceptance of the record, (Page 3 par. 0031)

Cuomo do not explicitly teach means for issuing receipt to the clients for the accepted record.

However Naor teaches means for issuing a serial number to the clients of the accepted record (Col. 3 lines 58-67);

Therefore it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to employ the teachings of Naor with in the system of Cuomo because it would help clients to issue a query by sending a certificate serial number to the directory (Col. 9 lines 49-65). Therefore it is obvious to have a means for issuing a receipt to the clients for the accepted record because the clients can request for a certificate with recorded date from the center site or Certificate Authority to notarize record.

Cuomo do not explicitly teach means for searching stored records by the issued receipt.

However Naor teaches means for searching stored records by the issued serial number (Col. 8 lines 58-67).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to employ the teachings of Naor with in the system of Cuomo because it would allow to search stored Certificate Revocation List that is issued by the certificate Authority and identify all revoked certificates by their serial numbers. Therefore it is obvious to have a means for searching stored records by issuing a receipt to the clients because the issued receipt would identify clients by its identification number or serial number that is unique to all customers and perform excellent searching.

Cuomo do not explicitly teach certificate of the acceptance of the record, data with recorded date, when requested by the client with above receipt.

However Naor teaches means for issuing certificate of the acceptance of the record, data with recorded date, when requested by the client with above serial number (Col. 8 lines 57-61)

Therefore it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to employ the teachings of Naor with in the system of Cuomo because it would allow to have a valid date and expiration date on the certificate to show if the certificate is revoked or not (Col. 6 lines 66- col. 7 lines 11). Therefore it is obvious to have a certificate with the acceptance of the record, data with recorded date, when requested by the client with above receipt because the recorded data with recorded date would specify the recording date of the certificate to the users and the certification authority.


5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Eleni A Shiferaw whose telephone number is 703-305-0326. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 8:00am-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ayaz R Sheikh can be reached on 703-305-9648. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 2136

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Eleni Shiferaw  
Art Unit 2136

  
AYAZ SHEIKH  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100